

REMARKS

Responsive to the communication of 29 November 2006, applicant has reviewed the claims and amended portions of the claims to clarify and simplify the language used to express the features of the claims. Care has been taken not to materially change the scope of the claims by these amendments. Please note that claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 9 which depended from claim 8, and claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 have been canceled. No new matter is added. A clean set of the claims with all of the changes adopted (*i.e.*, without the underlining and without the struck-through text of the amended claims) is attached to assist the examiner to review the claims in their amended form.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX: CLEAN VERSION OF CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1. (Currently Amended) An information recording medium that contains information at a predetermined position of said information recording medium indicating whether an asymmetry value is available for adjustment of a recording condition, the information being based on a comparison result between asymmetry values obtained from signals recorded under at least two or more recording conditions.
2. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 1, wherein a first asymmetry value at a first recording power in which jitter becomes minimum is compared with a second asymmetry value at a second recording power that is smaller than said first recording power.
3. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 2, wherein if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is greater than or equal to a predetermined value, said information indicates that adjustment of the recording conditions using the asymmetry values is possible, while if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is less than the predetermined value, said information indicates that adjustment of the recording conditions using the asymmetry values is not possible.
4. (Currently Amended) An information recording medium having a predetermined portion that contains a flag that indicates whether an asymmetry value is available for OPC, the flag being generated using first and second asymmetry values, wherein the first asymmetry value is measured using a first recording power at which a jitter becomes minimum, and the second asymmetry value is measured using a second recording power that is 0.85 times said first recording power.

5. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 4, wherein said flag is recorded such that if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is 0.05 or more, an asymmetry value is available for OPC, while if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is less than 0.05, an asymmetry value is not available for OPC.
6. (Currently Amended) An information recording medium on which information is recorded by means of irradiation with light, having a flag recorded on said recording medium, wherein the flag indicates whether or not an intensity of light for recording information can be adjusted on the basis of a correlation between asymmetry values and intensity of light.
7. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 6, wherein said flag indicates that said adjustment is possible if a difference between a first asymmetry value of a first signal recorded with a first intensity of light and an asymmetry value of a second signal recorded with a second intensity of light which is equal to or greater than a reference value, and said flag indicates that said adjustment is not possible if said difference is less than said reference value.
8. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 7, wherein said reference value is 0.05, and said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes jitter of the recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times said first intensity.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 6, wherein information can be recorded at a plurality of recording speeds, and said flag is set for at least one recording speed.
12. (Currently Amended) The information recording medium according to claim 11, wherein said plurality of recording speeds include a 1x recording speed and a 2x recording speed, and said flag is set for at least said 1x and 2x recording speeds.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Original) The information recording medium according to claim 6, wherein said medium is a DVD-RW.
16. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a flag comprising the steps of: measuring a first asymmetry value at a first recording power at which a jitter becomes minimum; measuring a second asymmetry value at a second recording power which is 0.85 times said first recording power; and generating a flag indicating whether or not an asymmetry value is available for OPC by comparing said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of generating a flag according to claim 16, wherein said flag indicates that an asymmetry value is available for OPC when a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is 0.05 or more, and an asymmetry value is not available for OPC when a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is less than 0.05.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of producing an information recording medium on which information is recorded by irradiation with light comprising the steps of:
producing a confirming recording medium;
using said confirming recording medium to confirm whether or not an intensity of light for recording can be adjusted on a basis of a correlation between an asymmetry value and said intensity of light; and
producing an information recording medium on which a flag indicating the confirmation result is recorded.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 18, wherein using said confirming recording medium to confirm whether or not an intensity of light for recording can be adjusted comprises:
recording a first signal by means of light at a first intensity on said confirming information recording medium, and recording a second signal by means of light at a second intensity on the medium;
obtaining a first asymmetry value based on said first signal, and obtaining a second asymmetry value based on said second signal;
obtaining a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value; and
comparing said difference with a reference value, and
wherein said flag indicates that said adjustment is possible when said difference is equal to or greater than said reference value, and said flag indicates that said adjustment is not possible when said difference is less than said reference value.

20. (Original) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 19, wherein said reference value is 0.05.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 19, wherein said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes a jitter of a recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times as high as said first intensity.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 20, wherein said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes a jitter of a recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times as high as said first intensity.
23. (Currently Amended) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 18, wherein said information recording medium is a medium on which information can be recorded at a plurality of recording speeds, and said flag is set for at least a 1x recording speed.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 23, wherein said plurality of recording speeds include a 1x recording speed and a 2x recording speed, and said flag is set for at least said 1x and 2x recording speeds.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 22, wherein said information recording medium is a medium on which information can be recorded at a plurality of recording speeds, and said flag is set for at least a 1x recording speed.
26. (Currently Amended) The method of producing for an information recording medium according to claim 25, wherein said plurality of recording speeds include a 1x recording speed and a 2x recording speed, and said flag is set for at least said 1x and 2x recording speeds.

27. (Original) The method of producing an information recording medium according to claim 18, wherein said information recording medium is a DVD-RW.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of adjusting recording conditions of an information recording medium comprising the steps of:
comparing asymmetry values, which are obtained by a signal recorded under at least two recording conditions; and
deciding whether an asymmetry value is available for adjustment of the recording conditions.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of adjusting recording conditions of an information recording medium according to claim 28, wherein a first asymmetry value at a first recording power at which a jitter becomes minimum is compared with a second asymmetry value at a second recording power that is smaller than said first recording power.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of adjusting recording conditions of an information recording medium according to claim 29, wherein if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is greater than or equal to a predetermined value, adjustment of the recording conditions using the asymmetry value is carried out, while if difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is less than said predetermined value, adjustment of the recording condition using the asymmetry value is not carried out.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of adjusting recording conditions of an information recording medium comprising the steps of:
measuring a first asymmetry value at a first recording power at which a jitter becomes minimum;
measuring a second asymmetry value at a second recording power that is 0.85 times said first recording power;

measuring a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value;

and

determining that if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is 0.05 or more, said asymmetry value is available for OPC, while if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is less than 0.05, said asymmetry value is not available for OPC.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of adjusting recording conditions of an information recording medium comprising the steps of:

measuring a first asymmetry value at a first recording power at which a jitter becomes minimum;

measuring a second asymmetry value at a second recording power that is 0.85 times said first recording power;

generating a flag indicating whether or not an asymmetry value is available for OPC by comparing said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value; and adjusting recording conditions based on said generated flag.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of adjusting recording conditions of an information recording medium according to claim 32, wherein said flag indicates that if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is 0.05 or more, an asymmetry value is available for OPC, while if a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value is less than 0.05, said asymmetry value is not available for OPC.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of recording for an information recording medium on which information is recorded with light, and which contains a flag indicating whether or not an intensity of light for recording information can be adjusted on the basis of a correlation between asymmetry values and said intensity of light, comprising the steps of:

reading out said flag from said information recording medium;

if said flag indicates that said adjustment is possible, adjusting said intensity of light based on said correlation; and recording information on said information recording medium with said light.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 34, wherein said intensity of light is adjusted on the basis of an amplitude of a reproduced signal of the information recorded on said information recording medium when said flag indicates that said adjustment is not possible.
36. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 34, wherein said flag is set such that a first signal is recorded on said information recording medium by means of light at a first intensity and a second signal is recorded on said medium by means of light at a second intensity to obtain a first asymmetry value based on said first signal and a second asymmetry value based on said second signal and to thereby obtain a difference between said first asymmetry value and said second asymmetry value, and the difference is compared with a reference value so that said flag indicates that the adjustment is possible when said difference is equal to or greater than said reference value and said flag indicates that the adjustment is not possible when said difference is less than said reference value.
37. (Original) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 36, wherein said reference value is 0.05.
38. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 36, wherein said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes jitter of a recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times as high as said first intensity.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 37, wherein said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes jitter of a recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times as high as said first intensity.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 34, wherein information representing an asymmetry value when the jitter becomes minimum is recorded on said information recording medium, and said intensity of light is adjusted using said information representing the asymmetry value.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 34, wherein said intensity of light is adjusted such that a first asymmetry value obtained based on a first period signal and a second period signal having a longer period than that of the first period signal is identical with a second asymmetry value obtained based on a third period signal and a fourth period signal having a longer period than that of the third period signal.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 34, wherein said information recording medium is a medium on which information can be recorded at a plurality of recording speeds, and said flag is set for at least a 1x recording speed.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 42, wherein said plurality of recording speeds include a 1x recording speed and a 2x recording speed, and said flag is set for at least said 1x and 2x recording speeds.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 39, wherein said information recording medium is a medium on which

information can be recorded at a plurality of recording speeds, and said flag is set for at least a 1x recording speed.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 44, wherein said plurality of recording speeds include a 1x recording speed and a 2x recording speed, and said flag is set for at least said 1x and 2x recording speeds.

46. (Original) The method of recording for an information recording medium according to claim 34, wherein said information recording medium is a DVD-RW.

47. (Currently Amended) An information recording device for recording information on an information recording medium with light, wherein a flag is recorded on said information recording medium, the flag indicating whether or not an intensity of light for recording can be adjusted on the basis of a correlation between an asymmetry value and said intensity of light, comprising:
a reading section for reading out said flag from said information recording medium;
a first adjustment section for adjusting said intensity of light on the basis of said correlation between an asymmetry value of said information recording medium and said intensity of light;
a selecting section for activating said adjustment section when said flag indicates that the adjustment is possible; and
a recording section for recording information on said information recording medium by irradiating said information recording medium with said light.

48. (Currently Amended) The information recording device according to claim 47, further comprising a second adjustment section for adjusting said intensity of light on the basis of an amplitude of a reproduced signal of the information recorded on said information

recording medium, said second adjustment section being activated by said selecting section when said flag indicates that said adjustment is not possible on the basis of said correlation.

49. (Currently Amended) An information recording device for recording information on an information recording medium by irradiating the information recording medium with light, comprising:

a first adjustment section for adjusting an intensity of said light on the basis of a correlation between an asymmetry value of said information recording medium and said intensity of said light;

a signal recording section for recording a first signal on said information recording medium by means of light at a first intensity, while recording a second signal on said information recording medium by means of light at a second intensity;

a selecting section for determining an asymmetry value of said first signal and an asymmetry value of said second signal and calculating a difference between said asymmetry values, and for activating said adjustment section when said difference is equal to or greater than a reference value; and

a recording section for recording information on said information recording medium by irradiating said information recording medium with said light.

50. (Currently Amended) The information recording device according to claim 49, further comprising a second adjustment section for adjusting said intensity of light on the basis of an amplitude of a reproduced signal of the information recorded on said information recording medium, said second adjustment section being activated by said selecting section when said difference is less than said reference value.

51. (Original) The information recording device according to claim 49, wherein said reference value is 0.05.

52. (Currently Amended) The information recording device according to claim 50, wherein said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes jitter of a recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times as high as said first intensity.

53. (Currently Amended) The information recording device according to claim 51, wherein said first intensity is an intensity that minimizes jitter of a recorded signal, and said second intensity is 0.85 times as high as said first intensity.

54. (Original) The information recording device according to claim 47, wherein said information recording medium is a DVD-RW.